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31 May 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Organizational Proposal for the Production of Intelligence on International Communism

1. Attached hereto I submit my recommendations to provide the expansion of intelligence research activity regarding international communism, along with the comments of the DD/P, the DD/I, and DD/S.

2. Agreement has been reached with regard to two aspects of my recommendations, namely, paragraphs 6a and 6b. Accordingly, I recommend that you approve them in order that the implementation may be begun at once, taking into account the comments of DD/S.

3. With regard to the third aspect, the Senior Research and Planning Unit (discussed in paragraphs 6c and 6d) I believe there is no sharp disagreement as to the character and functions of such a group and as to the desirability of initiating it rather informally on a small scale. (These are the points covered in paragraph 6c). On the other hand there is clear disagreement as to the administrative arrangement that would be desirable (paragraph 6d). I am attaching herewith the comments of the DD/P and the DD/I on this matter and would like to make the following comments of my own.

a. In my view, the senior research and planning unit's function should be neither solely nor mainly intelligence analysis as the DD/I prefers to think; nor should it be solely or mainly to research and plan for counterintelligence operations, as the DD/P seems to think. Rather I have in mind that this unit, naturally drawing on intelligence -- raw, highly sensitive in part, NIS type in part, estimative and current -- will deal with the question of "How do we lick international communism?"

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b. I have already discussed in my memo of November 9, 1954 why I do not believe the concentration of effort required on this subject can be obtained in the NSC nor in the Policy Planning Staff [redacted] The anticipated product of the thinking of the senior research and planning unit would indeed be of concern to CIA operations but principally it would relate to means of combatting communism there the coordination of the different arms of the Government concerned.

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c. My recommendation that the unit be "associated" and housed with the CI staff, and specifically the division of international communism, is based on the premise that this is required in order that the unit may have access to sensitive materials in DD/P which would not be feasible if the unit were situated elsewhere. It would therefore be a convenience to have the "association" cover housekeeping. As to "control," I do not believe this should reside in either the Chief, CI or the DD/I but only in the DCI.

d. I readily concede the experimental nature of my proposal and it is for this reason that I recommend a modest beginning. It's success will depend most importantly on the direct encouragement and support of the DCI, as well as the freedom with which the personnel of that unit may consult with and be consulted by other agencies and with outside institutions and scholars.

4. I also, therefore, recommend that you approve my original recommendation as set forth in paragraphs 4c and 4d of the attached memorandum.

SIGNED

[redacted]

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Special Assistant to the Director
for Planning and Coordination

PCS/DCI:JGR:aml (18 May 1955)
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